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January 17, 2003

U.S. Department of Transportation Docket Management System 400 7th Street, SW., Room PL 401 Washington, DC 20591-0001.

Subject: Petition for Exemption - FAR Section 91.203

Reference: Docket Number FAA-2001-8762 and Exemption 5515E

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with the FAR Section 11.61, the Regional Airline Association (RAA), on behalf of its member airlines, petitions for an extension of Exemption No.5515E. If granted this exemption would provide relief for RAA member airlines from the requirements of paragraphs 91.203 of the FAR to the extent necessary to permit temporary operation of U. S. registered aircraft in domestic airline operations without the registration and/or airworthiness certificates on board.

Exemption 5515E will expire on April 30, 2003, unless superseded or amended. Exemption 5515A was issued on January 28, 1993 to specifically limit the applicability of the exemption to RAA member airlines.

Justification for extending this exemption was provided in our original petition, dated July 3, 1991 and restated in Exemption 5515. If our original petition is not available in the docket, please advise and RAA will provide a copy. The conditions and circumstances, in regard to public interest and safety, which warranted the original grant of exemption, continue to exist. The Exemption(s) have been in use for almost nine years with no known compromise of safety.

Extending this Exemption will not adversely affect safety, because it will not change the state of airworthiness or operational control of affected aircraft. The conditions provided in Exemption 5515 and subsequent revisions would continue to assure the proper use of the authority to operate aircraft without required certificates, thus providing an equivalent level of regulatory control as provided for in the FAR. Extending this exemption, if granted, would have no adverse impact on the interests of the aircraft owners or on government agencies.



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As the renewal of this exemption is not precedent setting, RAA requests that publication of our petition in the Federal Register be waived in accordance with Section 11.87(b). The renewal of this exemption is not a controversial issue since the reasons and conditions for implementation are identical to Exemptions 5515 and the subsequent amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

REGIONAL AIRLINE ASSOCIATION

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